

# NEWS RELEASE

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For Immediate Release  
August 7, 2006

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## **Indiana Woman Sentenced for Failure to Pay Federal Income Tax**

Urbana, IL - Rodger A. Heaton, United States Attorney for the Central District of Illinois, announced that on August 4, 2006, Chief U.S. District Judge Michael P. McCuskey sentenced Lori Renee Nickel to serve 30 months in prison for failure to pay income taxes on approximately \$398,000 she had failed to declare in personal tax returns. According to court records, Nickels, 38, of Kingman, Indiana, was also ordered to pay \$517,489 in restitution. She was ordered to report to the federal Bureau of Prisons on September 8, 2006, to begin her sentence.

Nickel pled guilty to tax evasion on September 16, 2005. During her court appearance and according to the plea agreement, Nickel admitted that she embezzled funds from her former employer, A.L. Dougherty Co, Inc., of Danville, Illinois. Nickel admitted she failed to declare the embezzled funds as income on her personal tax returns for three tax years: 1998; 1999; and 2000.

The case was investigated by the Criminal Investigation Division of the Internal Revenue Service and prosecuted by Hilary W. Frooman, Assistant U.S. Attorney.

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